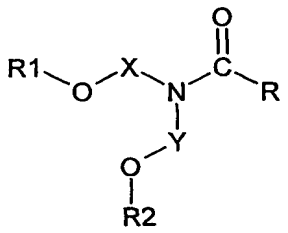
What is claimed is

1. Vermin-repellent composition, characterised in that it contains as active ingredient a compound of formula (I)



wherein
R is unbranched or branched C_1-C_{15} alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, cyano or nitro; R1 and R2 are unbranched or branched C_1-C_{12} alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, cyano or nitro; and X and Y, independently of one another, are a straight-chain or branched alkylene bridge with 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, cyano or nitro; and at least one appropriate diluent or a spreading additive.

2. Composition according to claim 1, characterised in that R is branched C_1-C_9 alkyl, and R1, R2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1.

3. Composition according to claim 1, characterised in that it contains as active ingredient a compound of formula (I), wherein R is $CH(C_1$-C_4 alkyl$)_2$, whereby the two are of different or the same length and are branched or unbranched, and R1, R2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1.

4. Composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that it contains as active ingredient a compound of formula (I), wherein R is $CH(C_3H_7$-n$)_2$ and R1, R2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1.

5. Composition according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that it contains as active ingredient a compound of formula (I), wherein X and Y, independently of one another, are methylene or ethylene, and R, R1, and R2 are as defined in claim 1.

6. Composition according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that it contains as active ingredient a compound of formula (I), wherein R1 and R2, independently of one another, are methyl or ethyl, and R, X and Y are as defined in claim 1.

7. Composition according to claim 1, characterised in that it contains as active ingredient the compound 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amide.

8. Vermin-repellent composition according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it is present in the form of an alcoholic solution.

9. Vermin-repellent composition according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it is present in the form of a pour-on or spot-on formulation.

10. Vermin-repellent composition according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterised in that it is present in the form of a collar or tag.

11. Use of a compound of formula (I) according to one of claims 1 to 7 for deterring vermin from an animal or a human or from an object, characterised in that, in a non-therapeutical process, an amount of compound of formula (I) which repels the vermin is applied topically to the animal, the human or the object.

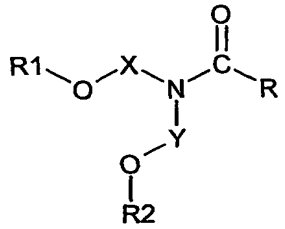
12. Use of a compound of formula (I) according to one of claims 1 to 7 for producing a vermin-repellent composition.

13. Use of a compound of formula (I) according to one of claims 1 to 7 in a process for repelling vermin from animals, humans or objects.

14. Process for deterring vermin from places or materials where they are not wanted, characterised in that an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to one of claims 1 to 7 is applied to the place or to the material from which the vermin is to be deterred.

15. Process for the preparation of a composition for repelling vermin, characterised in that a compound of formula (I) according to one of claims 1 to 7 is mixed with an appropriate additive.

16. A compound of formula (I)



wherein

R1 and R2 are unbranched or branched C_1-C_{12} alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, cyano or nitro; and X and Y, independently of one another, are a straight-chain or branched alkylene bridge with 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, cyano or nitro; and R is $CH(C_2$-C_4 alkyl$)_6$, whereby the two C_2-C_6 alkyl radicals are identical and branched or preferably unbranched.

17. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 16, wherein R is $CH(C_3H_7$-n$)_2$.

18. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 17 that is 2-propyl-pentanoic acid-bis-(2-methoxyethyl)-amide.